

The Examiner is correct to have presumed that the Applicant's residence, as submitted with the oath or declaration, is the Applicant's post office address.

In the Drawings:

Please cancel original Figure 1, from the German Utility Application. Please make FIG. 2 from the German Utility Application FIG. 2 in the instant application. Also, please re-number the remainder of the original drawings, FIGS. 2-18 to reflect these changes.

Therefore:

Original FIG. 2 will be new FIG. 3.

Original FIG. 3 will be new FIG. 4.

Original FIG. 4 will be new FIG. 5.

Original FIG. 5 will be new FIG. 6.

Original FIG. 6 will be new FIG. 7.

Original FIG. 7 will be new FIG. 8.

Original FIG. 8 will be new FIG. 9.

Original FIG. 9 will be new FIG. 10, and so on.

In the Title:

Please cancel the title and replace with the following title:

APPARATUS FOR GUIDING SUTURES THROUGH A MEMBRANE WALL
NEAR THE EDGE REGION OF AN OPENING PROVIDED THEREON

In the Abstract:

Please cancel the abstract and replace the abstract with the following

A handwritten mark, possibly a signature or initials, consisting of a large, stylized letter 'A' with a diagonal line crossing through it from the top right to the bottom left.

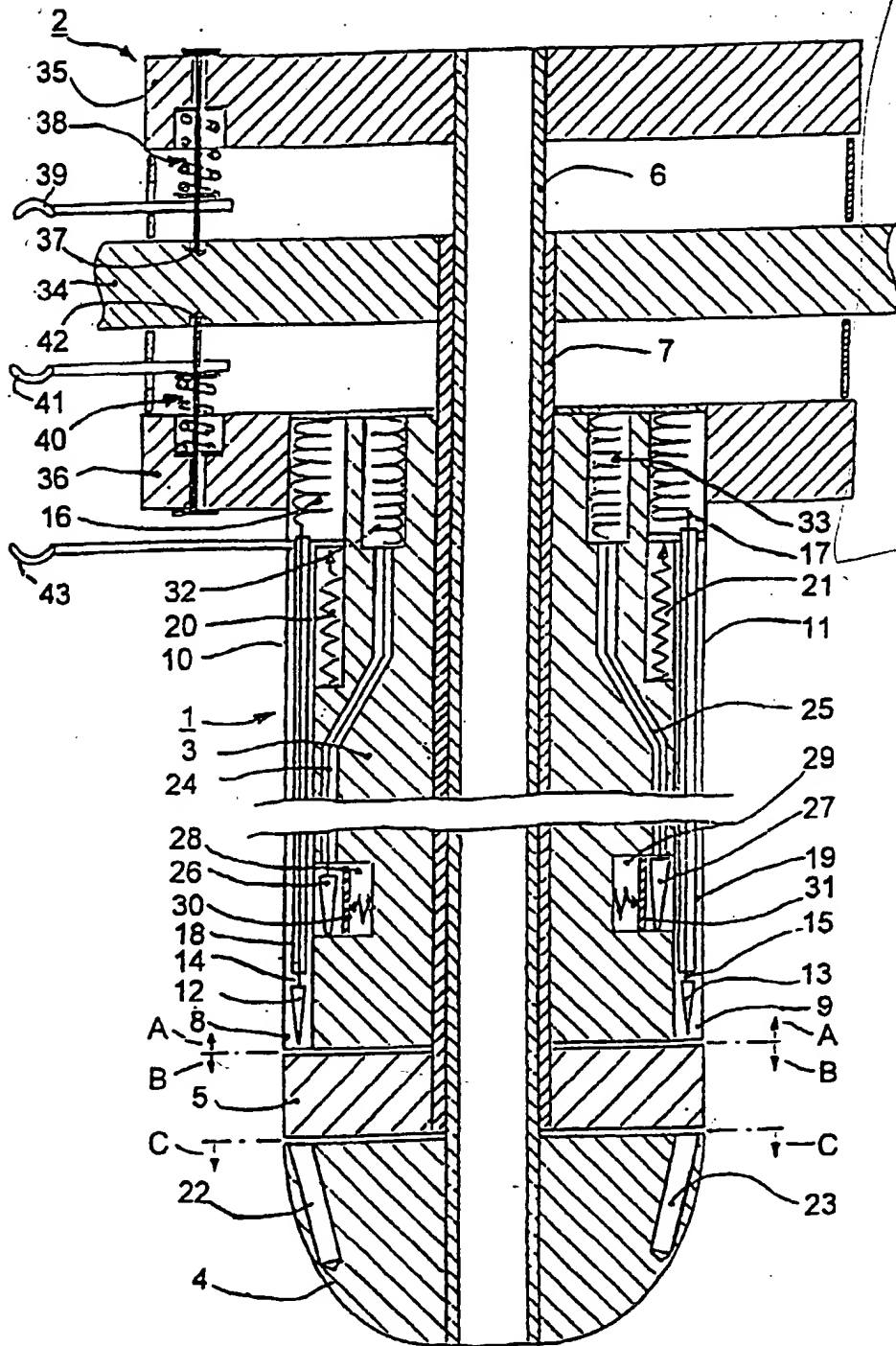


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Part of # 09/847676

Fig. 1

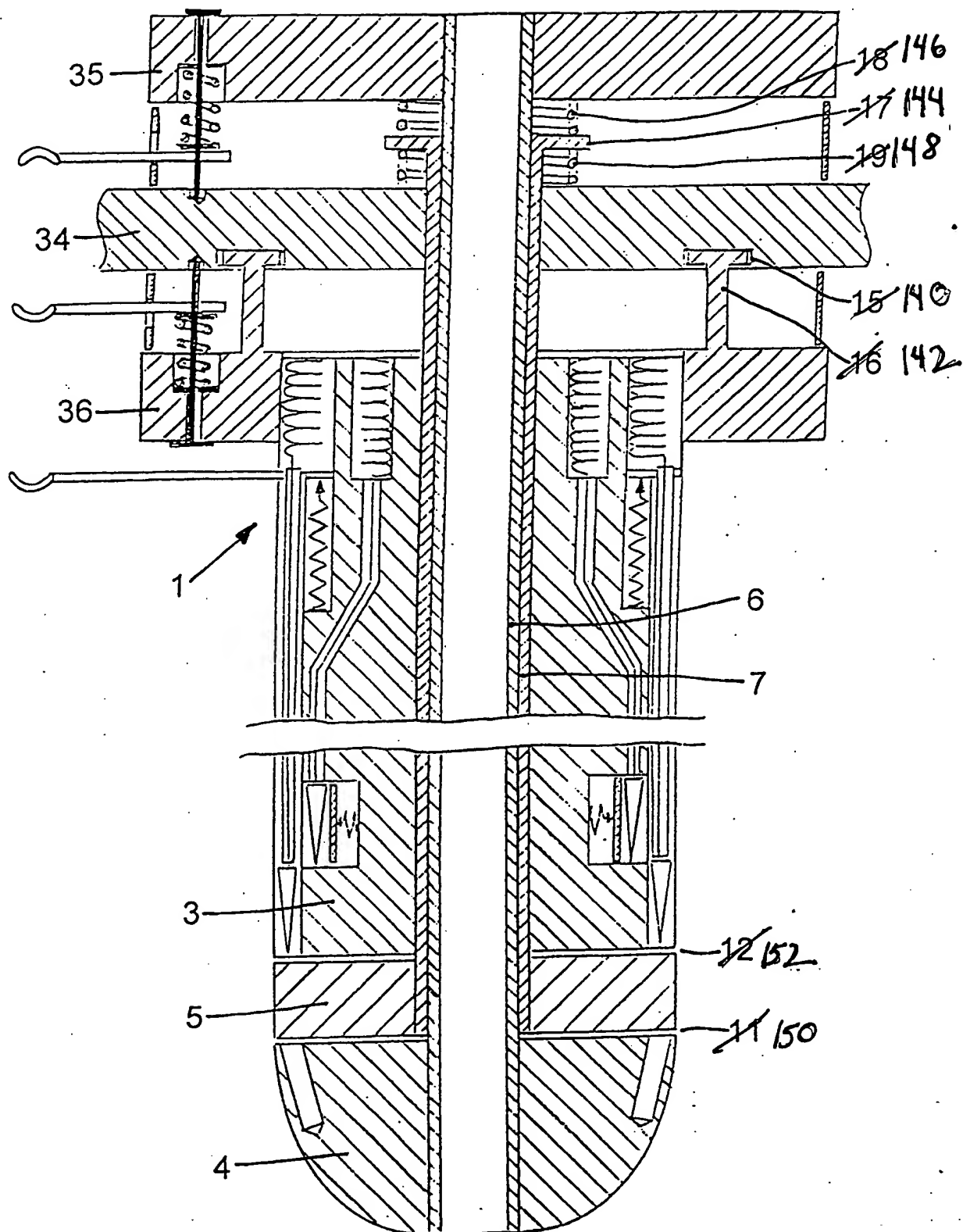


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Fig. 2



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Fig. 2³

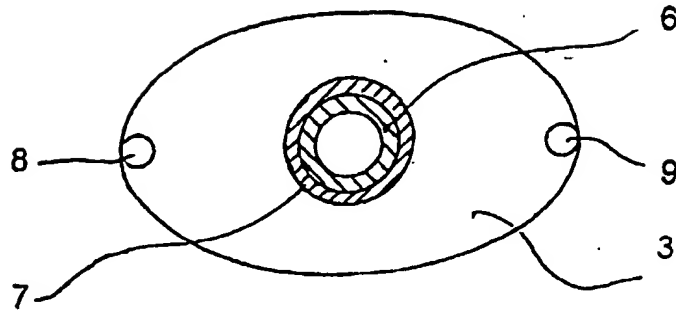


Fig. 3⁴

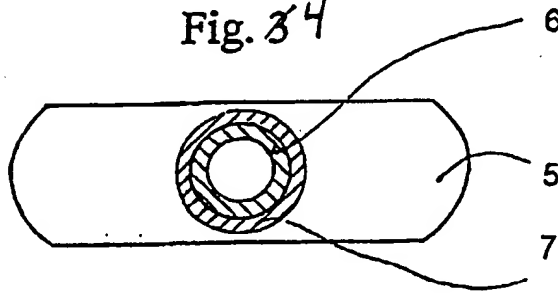
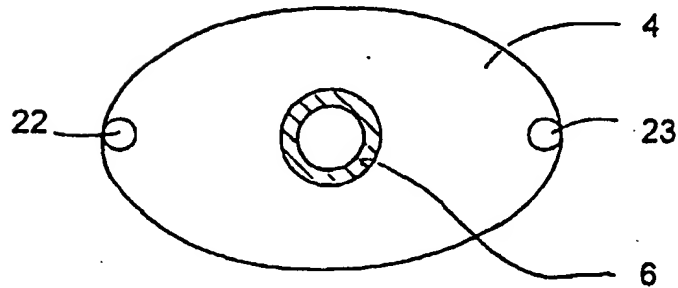


Fig. 4⁵



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Fig. 5⁶

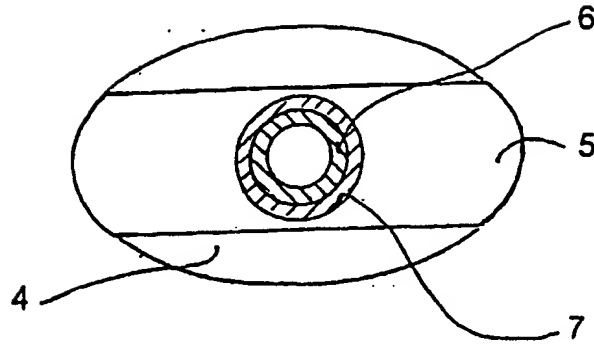
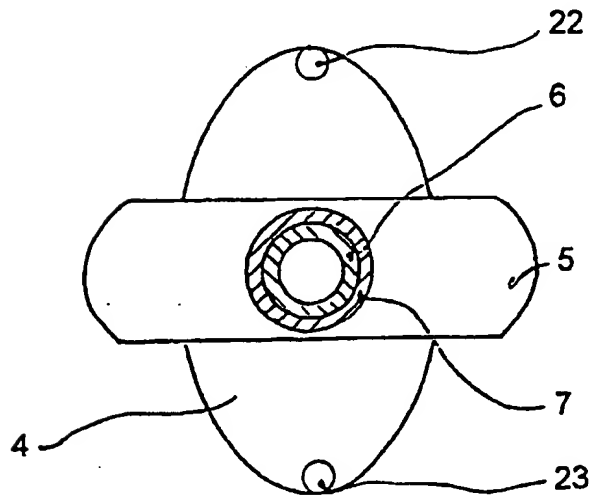


Fig. 6⁷



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Fig. 7 8

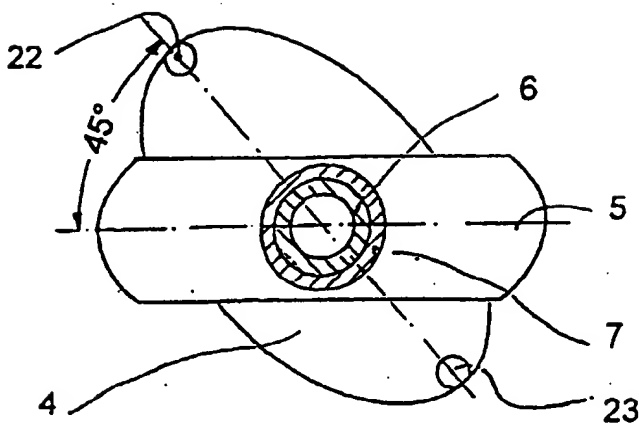


Fig. 8 9

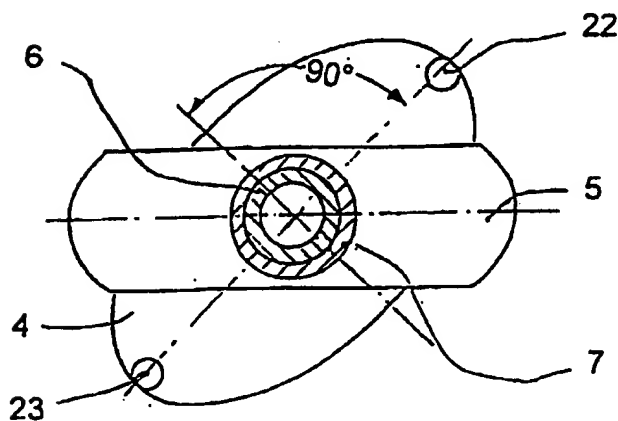
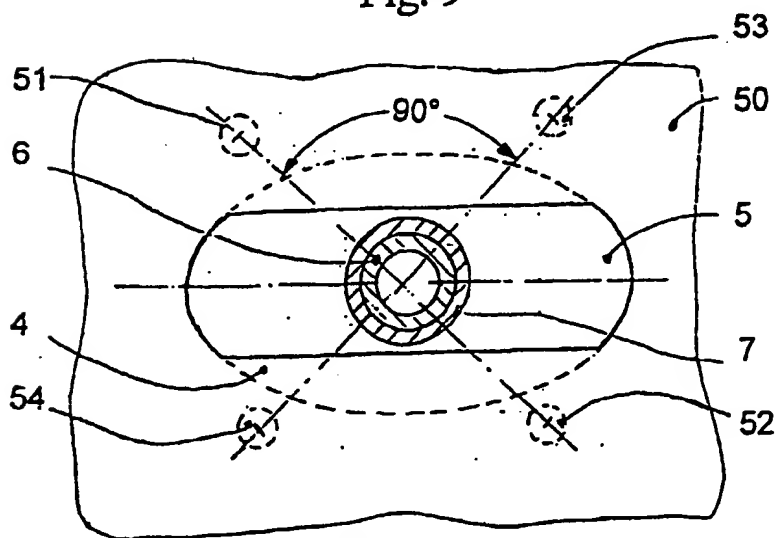


Fig. 9 10



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Fig. 10¹¹

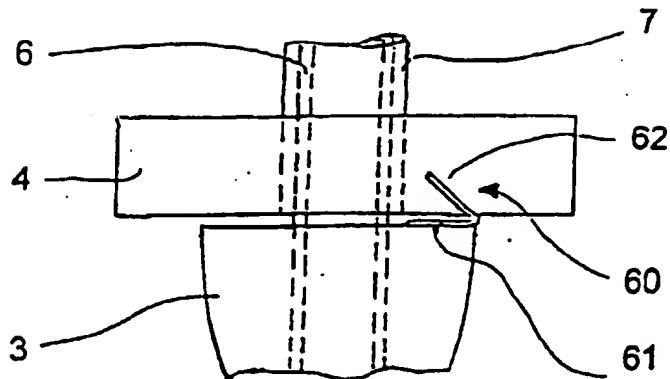
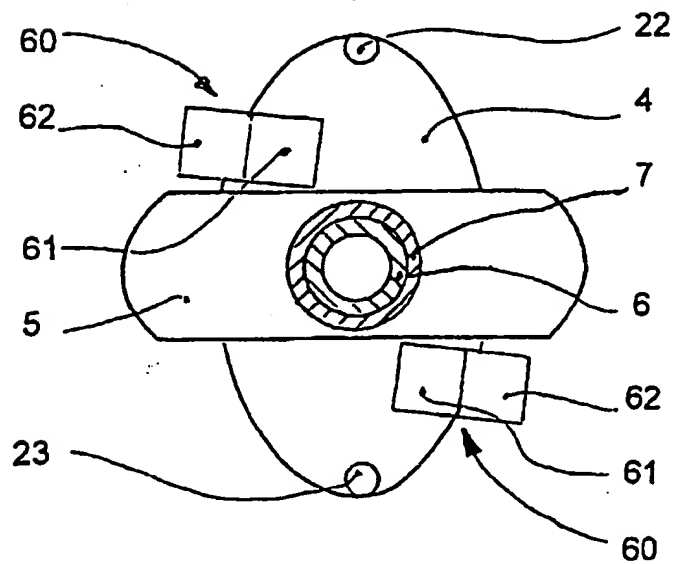


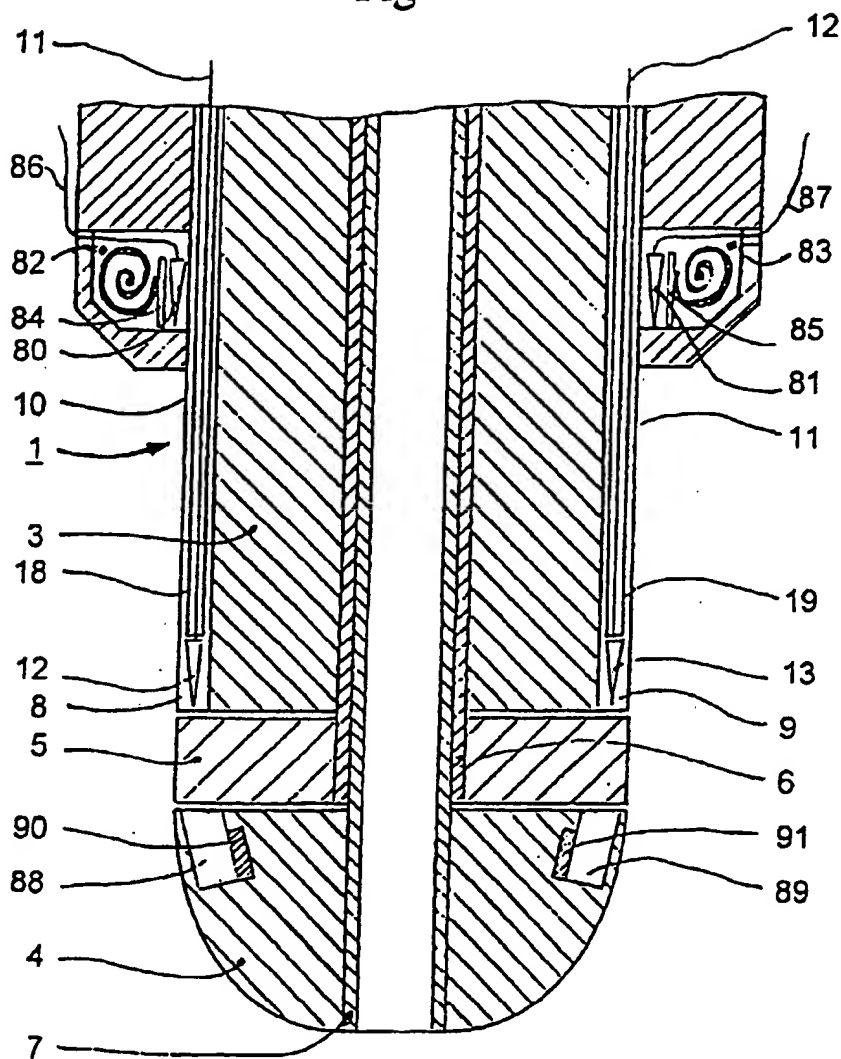
Fig. 11¹²



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Fig. 12 13



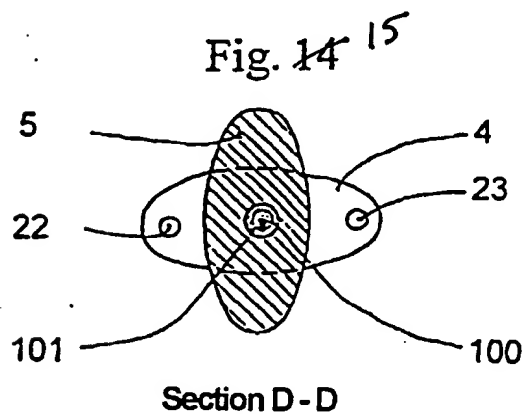
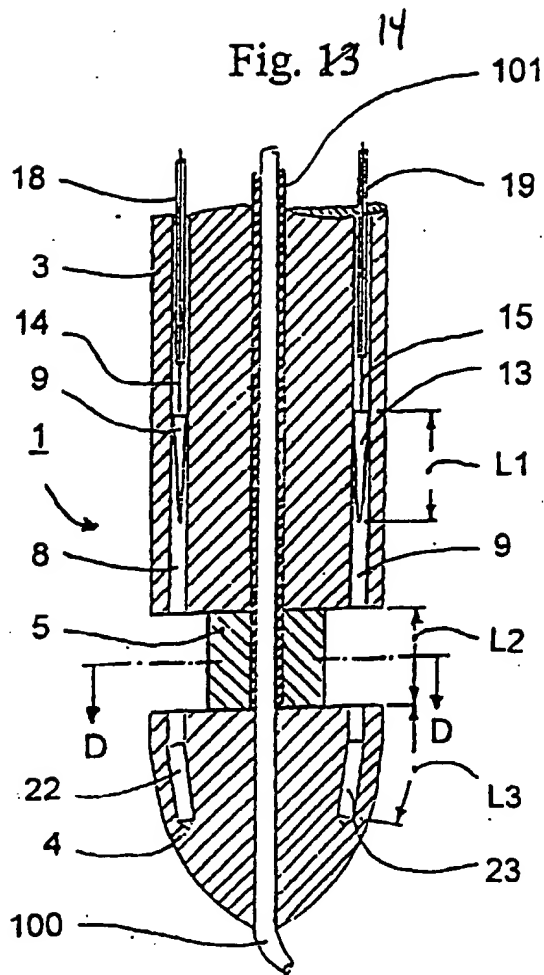
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Fig. 15 16

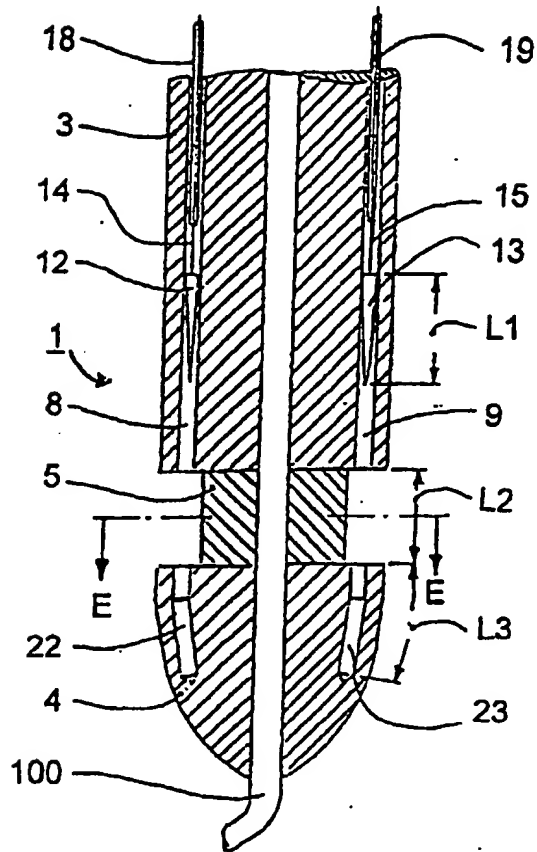
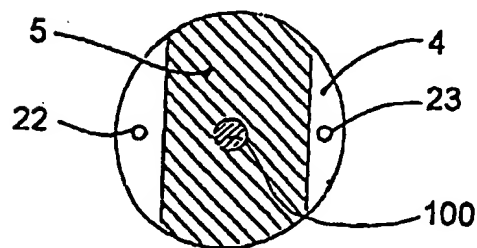


Fig. 16 17



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Fig. 17 18

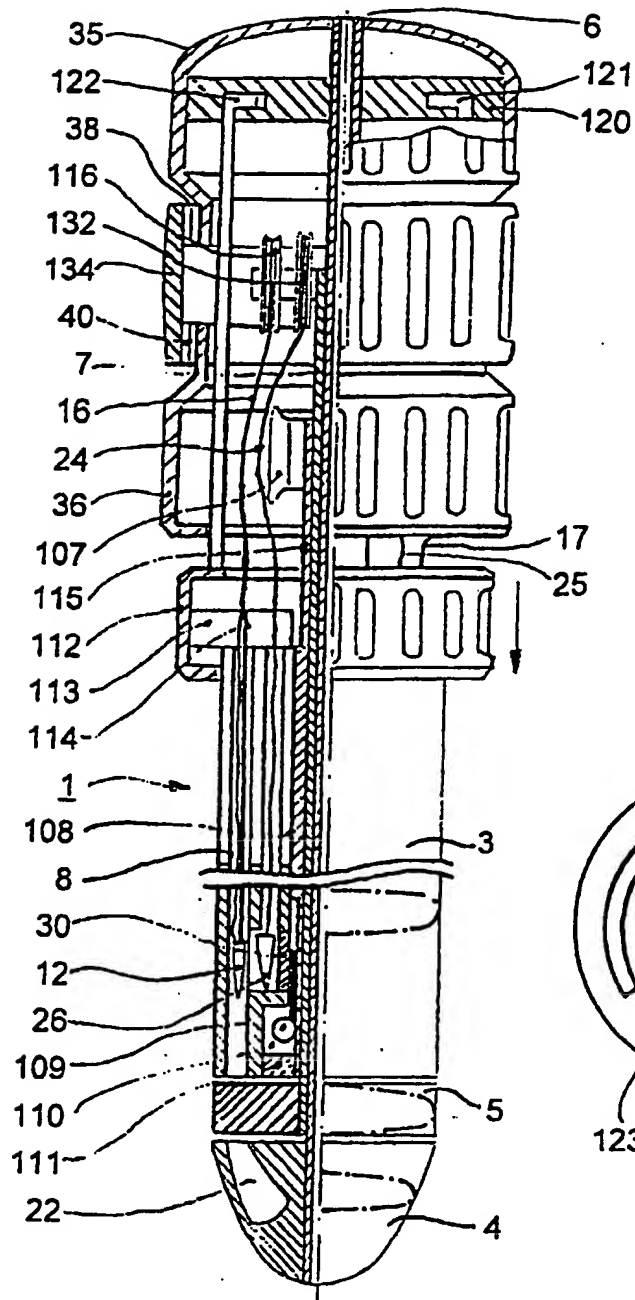
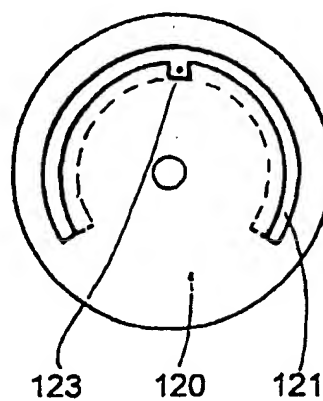


Fig. 18 19



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